Loss of Livestock in Rajasthan

1709. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of livestock expired due to extreme cold conditions that prevailed in Rajasthan during December, 2002, January, 2002, District-wise;

(b) whether loss of livestock has added to the miseries of the farmers of Rajasthan who are already undergoing the wrath of severe drought of last summer;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to sanction some relief to those farmers who have lost their livestock in Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Department of Animal Husbandry of the Government of Rajasthan has not received any information till March 4, 2003 regarding death of livestock during December 2002-January 2003 due to extreme cold conditions.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise in view of (a) above

Agricultural Subsidies to Rajasthan

1710. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural subsidies extended in different forms, to farmers of Rajasthan in view of acute drought in the State;

(b) whether any such proposals are under consideration of Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Against the demand of Rs. 235 crore projected by the State Government to the Central Team, the High Level Committee (HLC) approved an amount of Rs. 272.02 crores as Agriculture Input Subsidy. After adjustment of

balances available in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State, a sum of Rs. 155.68 crore has been released from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

CLA for Rajasthan

1711. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that animal decline in ground water in drought, arid and desert conditions in Rajasthan has resulted in loss of lacs of hectares of fertile land to the State;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry is willing to discuss with the Ministry of Water Resources to allow Rajasthan with liberal norms for Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP); and

(c) if so, by when the CLA would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Due to deficit rainfall, decline in ground water, etc., only 49.20 lakh hectare area could be sown in Rajasthan in Kharif 2002-03 as against normal coverage of 88.70 lakh hectare. Also, only 31.95 lakh hectare area could be sown in Rajasthan in Rabi 2002-03 as against normal coverage of 66.69 lakh hectare.

(b) and (c) Rajasthan State, being a reforming State under AIBP norms, have been provided with CLA in the ratio of 4:1 (Centre State) instead of 2:1 given to non-reforming States. An amount of Rs. 558.232 crores has been released to Rajasthan State under AIBP during 1996-97 to 2002-2003.

Production of European vegetables

†1712. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating any project to produce European vegetables in the country itself;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.